

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4 - 6, 8 - 18, 49 and 53 are pending for consideration in the present application, wherein claim 53 is newly added. Claims 2, 3, 7, 19 - 48 and 50 - 52 are canceled, wherein claims 3, 19 - 33, 35 - 37, 43, 45, 47, 48, 51 and 52 are being canceled by the present amendment. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

In the drawings, Applicant is amending FIG. 6, on sheet 6 of 10. More particularly, on sheet 6 of 10, in a box labeled "START", Applicant is deleting the reference number "1010", because the specification does not mention reference number 1010.

On September 11, 2008, Applicant submitted an amendment (hereinafter "the amendment of September 11, 2008") in which Applicant amended claim 1 to include a recital that was previously presented in claim 3. Accordingly, Applicant intended to cancel claim 3, but in error, canceled claim 2. In the present amendment, Applicant is (a) canceling claim 3, as should have been done the amendment of September 11, 2008, and (b) adding claim 53 to reclaim a recital that was previously presented in claim 2.

Claims 13 and 15 originally depended from claim 2. The cancellation of claim 2 in the amendment of September 11, 2008 rendered claims 13 and 15 indefinite. Accordingly, in the present amendment, Applicant is amending claims 13 and 15 so that they now depend from the newly added claim 53.

Applicant is amending claim 17 to correct a typographical error.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 3 - 6, 8 - 18 and 49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0133423 to LaDue (hereinafter "the LaDue publication"), in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,966,667 to Halloran et al. (hereinafter "the Halloran et al. patent"), and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,023,718 to Soloff (hereinafter "the Soloff

patent"). Claim 3 is canceled, thus rendering moot the rejection thereof. Applicant is clarifying an aspect of claim 1.

Claim 1 provides for a communication device. The communication device includes, *inter alia*, a character recognition device operable to recognize handwritten characters provided in messages and convert the hand written characters into text, wherein the communication device transmits the messages, with the text therein, via a communication network.

The specification describes the above-noted aspect of claim 1 at page 11, lines 20 - 24.

None of the LaDue publication, the Halloran et al. patent, or the Soloff patent mention a conversion of handwritten characters into text. Consequently, the cited combination of references neither discloses nor suggests a character recognition device operable to recognize handwritten characters provided in messages and **convert the hand written characters into text**, wherein the communication device **transmits the messages, with the text therein, via a communication network**, as recited in claim 1. Thus, claim 1 is patentable over the cited combination of references.

Claims 4 - 6, 8 - 18 and 49 depend from claim 1. by virtue of this dependence, claims 4 - 6, 8 - 18 and 49 are also patentable over the cited combination of references.

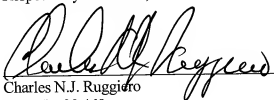
Applicant is requesting reconsideration and a withdrawal of the section 103(a) rejection of claims 1, 3 - 6, 8 - 18 and 49.

As mentioned above, Applicant is adding claim 53 to reclaim a recital that was previously presented in claim 2, amending claims 13 and 15 to depend from claim 53, correcting a typographical error in claim 17, and clarifying an aspect of claim 1. Applicant is also amending claim 1 to (a) correct an error in punctuation, i.e., use of a semi-colon instead of a comma, (b) correct spelling of the word "handwritten", (c) delete the word "said" from the first occurrence of the term "messages", and (d) include "said" for a subsequent usage of the term "messages".

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims presented in this application patentably distinguish over the prior art. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests favorable consideration and that this application be passed to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

September 15, 2009
Date


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